

Arizona Game and Fish Department
Wildlife Rehabilitation License
Application Packet

About the Wildlife Rehabilitation License

A wildlife rehabilitation license is a special license under Game and Fish Commission Rule 412-4-423 that authorizes the holder and its agents to capture, hold and treat injured, sick or orphaned wildlife until the animal can be released back to the wild. A wildlife rehabilitator houses and cares for these animals and must adhere to strict captivity standards. Rehabilitators can accept donations, but they are not allowed to charge a fee for their services. Application for a wildlife rehabilitation license is free.

Application Requirements

[Game and Fish Commission regulations](#) regarding the rehabilitation license include the following:

- Rehabilitation Rules (R12-4-423)
- Captivity Standards (R12-4-428)
- Licensing Time Frames (R12-4-106)
- Rehabilitation Exemption (R12-4-427)

Rehabilitators who care for migratory birds must also obtain a [permit](#) from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

The above information is provided for convenience. Other rules may also apply.

Criteria for Obtaining a Wildlife Rehabilitation License

Wildlife rehabilitators in Arizona are required to meet the following standards:

- Privilege to take or possess wildlife is not suspended or revoked in any state
- If applying to rehabilitate birds, must be 18 years of age
- Must have at least one of the following:
 - A valid, current state veterinary license
 - At least six months of experience for at least eight hours per week under the supervision of a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, veterinarian, or state or federal wildlife agency
 - Valid, current state or federal wildlife rehabilitation license

How To Apply For a Wildlife Rehabilitation License

1. Read and familiarize yourself with applicable laws and license requirements.
2. Pass a rehabilitation examination from your local permit officer:
 - Region I, Pinetop - Dave Cagle, (928) 367-4281, ext. 1130*
 - Region II, Flagstaff - Ron Sieg, (928) 774-5045, ext. 1240*
 - Region III, Kingman – Johnny Wills, (928) 692-7700, ext. 2330*
 - Region IV, Yuma - Officer Rebecca Wright, (928) 342-0091, ext. 4043*
 - Region V, Tucson - Elissa Ostergaard, (520) 628-5376, ext. 4446*
 - Wildlife Center, Phoenix and Region VI, Mesa - Sandy Cate, (623) 582-9806*
3. Arrange for and pass a facility inspection. (We recommend following the guidelines in “Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation,” available from the [IWRC](#) and [NWRA](#).)
4. Submit the following to your local permit officer:

- Application for Wildlife Rehabilitation License (see below)
- Captivity Standards Compliance Questionnaire (see below)
- Diagram of rehabilitation facilities, including dimensions and locations of enclosures
- Copy of current veterinary or rehabilitation licenses, if applicable
- Statements signed by all agents that their privilege to take or possess wildlife is not suspended or revoked in any state
- Typewritten, signed narrative describing your experience caring for the group(s) of animals on the license; proposed methods of intended disposition, including export or transfer to licensed zoos; and detailed diagrams of the facilities where animals will be held, including those of agents
- Letter of support and partnership from a licensed, practicing veterinarian; OR a typed, signed statement that you have a current, valid veterinary license; OR a typed, signed statement from the Wildlife Center that the center will assist in providing rehabilitation support to animals that come into your care

Reporting and License Renewals

- The license expires on Dec. 31 of the second year following the date the license is issued.
- Renewal applications (see application form, below) must be submitted by Dec. 31 of the year your license expires.
- Reports listing each animal handled for the previous calendar year are due Jan. 15 each year, regardless of whether animals were handled.
- Use report form (below) or list of each species, date, and location acquired; final disposition; and release site if released. Do not list pigeons (rock doves), house sparrows, starlings or domestic animals.

Arizona Game and Fish Dept.
555 N Greasewood Rd
Tucson, AZ 85745
520-628-5376

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Date Received _____ Region _____
Date Reviewer Received _____
Review Completion Date _____
Approved _____ Partial _____ Denied _____
Valid From _____ To _____

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

APPLICATION FOR WILDLIFE REHABILITATION LICENSE

FEE: NONE

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Birth Date _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Department ID Number/Social Security Number _____

I hereby apply for a (**CIRCLE ONE**) NEW or RENEWAL Wildlife Rehabilitation License. Renewals may only be requested for permits that were active during the previous licensing period and only when requisite reports have been received and accepted by the Department.

If this is a renewal application: Applicant's Initials _____

By initialing, I affirm that all requested authorizations are unchanged from the previous licensing period and that the proposal and other supportive materials detailed below were submitted with my previous application and remain true and correct.

Wildlife to be rehabilitated: Circle all appropriate groups

T&E species	TNW species	golden eagle
closed season reptiles	other reptiles	amphibians
non-passerine birds	raptors	hummingbirds
small game mammals	nongame mammals	passerine birds
big game mammals	carnivores	bats

If you do not wish to request authorization for species groups, list the individual species you wish to rehabilitate:

LOCATION: _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

List of Agents: List the name and address of anyone who may act as your agent under this permit. Use additional sheets if necessary. All information required under R12-4-423(G) and (E)(1) through (E)(3) must be submitted for all agents.

Name_____ Phone _____
Address_____
City_____ State_____ Zip_____
Department ID Number/Social Security Number _____
Birth Date_____

Name_____ Phone_____
Address_____
City_____ State_____ Zip_____
Department ID Number/Social Security Number_____
Birth Date_____

Name_____ Phone_____
Address_____
City_____ State_____ Zip_____
Department ID Number/Social Security Number_____
Birth Date_____

Name_____ Phone_____
Address_____
City_____ State_____ Zip_____
Department ID Number/Social Security Number_____
Birth Date_____

Name_____ Phone_____
Address_____
City_____ State_____ Zip_____
Department ID Number/Social Security Number_____
Birth Date_____

FORM 23-A

I am requesting authorization to: (circle all appropriate items)

RELEASE rehabilitated wildlife to the wild.

DISPOSE of carcasses by incineration or burial.

SALVAGE wildlife that die or are euthanized and dispose of them by transfer to public institutions.

BAND or mark released wildlife.

Criteria requisite to approval: Criteria that must be met for approval of this permit is stated in R12-4-423(D) and (E). Failure to meet those standards in full, or to provide required information, will delay review of your application and may result in denial.

Applications: Applications should be submitted to the Regional Supervisor of the region where you intend to conduct this activity, except in Region VI - applications should be submitted to the **Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center**.

Signature of applicant: By signing below, you certify that you meet the criteria as outlined in R12-4-423; that your privilege to take and possess wildlife is not under suspension or revocation by any state or the government of the United States, and you have read and understand the information provided in this packet.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: I certify the above is true and correct. Date

Approved By Date

FORM 23-A

**WILDLIFE REHABILITATION LICENSE APPLICATION
INFORMATION SHEET**

Additional information is required under R12-4-423(D) and (E). To ensure that this information has been provided, refer to the checklist below, and review your application before submitting it.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS MAY APPLY. Refer to R12-4-423.

D.3: Provide documentation proving the applicant has one or more of the following: a valid, current license to practice veterinary medicine; **OR** a minimum of six months (8 hours or more per week) of applicable experience in wildlife rehabilitation; **OR** a current state or Federal Wildlife Rehabilitation License.

D.4 and E.5: Provide documentation proving the applicant has, within the past five years, answered correctly 80% of the questions on a Department administered test relating to wildlife rehabilitation and related aspects of wildlife biology, captivity standards, safety considerations, and rules R12-4-409, R12-4-423, and R12-4-428.

E.2: Provide a typed, sworn statement, executed by all proposed agents acknowledging that their privilege to take or possess wildlife is not under current suspension or revocation by any state or by the government of the United States.

E.3: Provide a typed, signed narrative statement addressing all of the following: methods of disposition, the applicant's training and experience relative to wildlife proposed for rehabilitation, detailed diagrams of all rehabilitation facilities in which wildlife would be held (including the facilities of all agents) and a description of your procedures to ensure that captivity standards are met and that escape prevention mechanisms are adequate.

E.5: Provide one or more of the following: a typed, signed statement that the applicant is a licensed veterinarian; **OR** a typed, signed statement from the Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center Coordinator that the Center shall assist the applicant in providing rehabilitative care to the wildlife held; **OR** a typed, signed statement from a licensed, practicing veterinarian that they shall reasonably be available to render veterinary services as needed by the licensee.

Arizona Game and Fish Department
CAPTIVITY STANDARDS COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE
Captivity Standards (R12-4-428)

Section A - All wildlife held pursuant to a special license shall be kept in accordance with these guidelines.

Section B - General Captivity Standards.

1. Describe the material your holding facilities are made of.
2. Are animals exposed in any way to any electrical wiring or electrical apparatus?
- 3a. How will water be supplied?
- 3b. How often will the water sources be checked and cleaned?
- 4a. What type of food will be provided?
- 4b. Will the level of food be monitored at least once daily?
- 4c. How will the food be provided (type of feeder)?
- 5a. How often will the facility be cleaned (bedding, debris, dead animals, excreta, etc.)?
- 5b. Will the sanitation of the facility be monitored at least once per day?
6. How will excess water be removed from the facility?

7. Will the animal be exposed to any unnecessary human activity which may have an inhumane or harmful affect upon the animal?
8. Will facilities be constructed or maintained in proximity to any physical condition which may give rise to any health threat to the animal (ie. trash, garbage, pools of water, etc.)?
9. Will all animals that are housed together be compatible and not pose a substantial threat to the health, life, or well being of any other animal in the same enclosure or facility?
10. Will the facility provide sufficient space to allow each animal adequate freedom of movement to make normal postural and social adjustments, as well adequate exercise (eg. climbing apparatus for climbing animals and water for aquatic animals)?
11. How many people will be taking care of the animals at your facility?
12. If a primate is held, will the facility be structured to reasonably promote the psychological well being of the animal(s) held?
- 13a Who will you use as the Veterinarian for your facilities? provide name and phone number)
- 13b. Will that Vet inspect your animals once per year?
- 14a. If an animal is suspected or diagnosed to harbor any infectious or transmittable disease, how will you isolate that animal from the others being held?
- 14b. How will you sanitize the facility to avoid the spread of this infectious agent?

Section C - Standards for Indoor Facilities.

1. How will you provide heating and cooling to assure proper temperatures are maintained?
2. How will you provide adequate ventilation?
3. How will you provide lighting in your facility?

Section D - Standards for Outdoor Facilities.

1. How will adequate shade be provided?
2. How will you protect the animals from expected local climatic conditions throughout the year?

Section E - Standards for Handling and Transport.

How will animals be captured and transported?

Section F - The Department may impose additional requirements as public safety dictates.

Arizona Game and Fish Department
555 N. Greasewood Road
Tucson, AZ 85745
520-628-5376

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Date Received _____ Region _____
Received _____

By _____
Valid From _____ To _____

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

WILDLIFE REHABILITATION REPORT

Full Name _____ Permit # _____
Address _____

Report for Calendar Year _____

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit # _____

Expiration Date _____

SIGNATURE: I certify the information in this _____ Date _____
report to be true and correct.

If you were authorized to have agents act on your behalf, list their names and addresses below. Use additional sheets, if necessary.

Full Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____

Full Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____

Full Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____

**Arizona Game and Fish Department
Wildlife Rehabilitation Annual Report**

Reporting under R12-4-423 requires a list of each animal handled during the calendar year, whether or not the animal remains alive and/or in possession at year's end.

Full name of licensee _____ Reporting for calendar year: _____

Species	Condition requiring rehabilitation	Age*	Source, location & date of acquisition	Place, date and method of disposition or status if possessed at year end

*age class at acquisition (e.g., nestling, fledgling, juvenile, immature, adult) _____